Thousands of families in Los Angeles County are homeless each year.

Are you homeless? Are you worried that you may become homeless?

#### **WE CAN HELP YOU!**

There are programs to help people who get CalWORKs (or could get CalWORKs if they apply). These programs are for families who are having any of these housing problems:

- Being evicted
- Living in a shelter/transitional/group living facility
- Staying temporarily with friends/family
- Sleeping in a car/vehicle
- Living in a motel
- Sleeping on the streets
- Fleeing Domestic Violence
- Behind on your rent because of a money crisis.
- Moving into permanent housing and need help with security deposits and/or money for rent.

The County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Social Services
has many programs that can help you
get emergency shelter and services for
you and your children.

Help us to help you!

Ask your Eligibility Worker for a referral to the HOMELESS CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

## Your DPSS Local District office is located at:

(District address & telephone number label here)

#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

#### **County of Los Angeles**

Emergencies 9-1-1

Domestic Violence/Rape (800) 585-6231

Child Abuse (800) 540-4000

Elder Abuse (800) 992-1660

Friends Outside (626) 795-7607

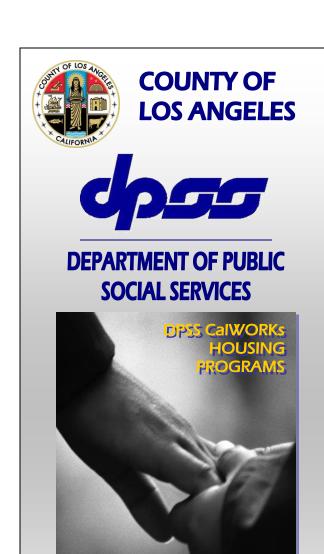
Suicide Prevention (310) 391-1253

For more information or additional services such as emergency shelter, food or clothing, you may dial

2-1-1

to be connected with services throughout Los Angeles County.

Call us! We're here to help.



Sheryl L. Spiller, Director

To enrich lives through effective

and caring service."

#### **DPSS CalWORKs Housing Program**

The goal of the Homeless Assistance (HA) Program is to keep families together. HA can help you get money for temporary and permanent housing. We want to help you and your family secure housing and avoid homelessness.

### Do you need a shelter or other place to stay for a short time?

There are two programs that can help you. **Temporary HA Payment** helps families that are approved for CalWORKs or that have applied for CalWORKs and are apparently eligible. We can help you pay for a motel/hotel room for up to 16 continuous days. You may receive up to \$65 per night for a family of four (plus \$15 for each additional eligible family member up to a maximum of \$125 per night). To get this money, you must have less than \$100 (cash) at the time you apply.

The Temporary Homeless Assistance Program+14 supplements the State's Temporary HA Program by providing an additional 14 days of temporary shelter payments to CalWORKs GAIN families. You may receive up to \$65 per night for a family of four (plus \$15 for each additional eligible family member up to a maximum of \$125 per night).

### Have you found a place to rent but need help moving in?

There are two programs that can help you. The **Permanent HA Program** can help if you are homeless and have been approved for **CalWORKs.** We can help you pay the security deposit, last month's rent, and utility deposits in order to get a permanent place to live. To qualify for this program:

 Your monthly rent cannot be more than 80% of your Total Monthly Household Income (TMHI).

The Moving Assistance (MA) Program can also help approved CalWORKs GAIN families. MA can help you with up to \$2,500 for moving expenses (for example, security deposit, moving truck rental) and you can use up to \$405 to buy a stove and/or refrigerator, if the rental unit does not have one. Parents who have timed out of CalWORKs can get up to two times the amount of their share of the monthly aid payment. To get this money:

- You must have a valid financial hardship, such as medical bills, losing a job, or other things you could not control. You must provide verification of financial hardship,.
- Your monthly rent payment cannot be more than 80% of your TMHI.

#### Are you going to be evicted because you did not pay your rent?

There are two programs that can help you. The **Permanent HA Payment** program can help you with money to pay for past due rent. To qualify, you must have a 3-day notice to pay rent or quit from your landlord and must have a financial hardship. Your rent must be within 80% of your TMHI. We can help you pay for up to two months of past due rent.

The Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction (EAPE) can also help. This program is for CalWORKs GAIN families who are at risk of becoming homeless. EAPE helps you with up to \$3,000 to pay for late rent and/or utilities up to two (2) months past due. You can get money from this program more than once until you have used the full \$3,000. Note: the \$3,000 once-in-a-lifetime limit for the EAPE Program applies to CalWORKs GAIN families who are first-time Program applicants, effective May 9, 2016. CalWORKs GAIN families, who already received, but did not exhaust, EAPE Program funds when the once-in-a-lifetime limit for the EAPE Programs was \$2,000, may receive EAPE Program funds until the \$2,000 limit has been exhausted, providing issuing the funds will prevent eviction.

### Do you need help finding a place to live or assistance with other resources?

The Homeless Case Management (HCM) Program looks at the needs of families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and helps find resources and services that may assist you. Ask your Eligibility Worker for a referral to the HCM Program.

#### Do you need help paying your rent?

The 4-Month Rental Assistance (RA) Program may be able to help if you are a homeless CalWORKs GAIN family and have found permanent housing. The RA Program helps you with up to \$500 per month (depending on the size of the family) for up to four (4) consecutive months. You have to use the money to help pay your non-subsidized rent. If you recently received the Permanent HA Arrearages Payment and/or EAPE payment to prevent your family's eviction, then you may also qualify for the 4-Month RA. CalWORKs GAIN families enrolled in the Family Stabilization Program with GAIN may receive up to eight (8) consecutive months of rental subsidy payments.

#### Do you need to move because of a job?

The Housing Relocation Program (HRP) can help. HRP can assist you with up to \$1,500 to help you move. Your family may qualify for HRP if you are getting CalWORKs, are eligible for GAIN and you have to move because:

- You travel one hour or more each way to get to or from work, or to drop off or pick up your child(ren) at child care.
- Verification that you have a job or job offer of 20 hours or more per week that requires you to move in order to start or continue to work.

HRP can also help with up to \$405 to buy a stove and/or refrigerator, if the rental unit does not have one.

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### Q: Will the County take my children away from me because we are homeless?

**A:** No. Being homeless is not a crime and it does not make you a bad parent. Homelessness <u>alone</u> is not a reason for children to be placed in protective custody.

### Q: Will my cash aid and/or CalFresh benefits be stopped or lowered because we are homeless?

A: CalWORKs cash aid cannot be stopped just because a family is homeless; however, because of CalFresh rules, your CalFresh benefits may go down. The HCM Program can give you referrals to places that can help you with additional groceries if you need them.

### Q: Can the HCM Program still help me if I have used homeless programs in the past?

**A:** Yes! Even if your family has already used all DPSS homeless benefits, you can still get help from the HCM Program. The HCM Program will make sure you get all available benefits and will help you to get additional services from local agencies and service providers who can help you with emergency shelter, food, clothing, and many other services.

# Q: Can I receive the 4-Month RA subsidy again, even if I have previously received the payments in the past?

A: Yes. A CalWORKs GAIN family who has exhausted their eligibility to the 4-Month RA Program can qualify for a <u>one-time-only</u> exception to the once-in-a-lifetime rule for the 4-Month RA Program if the family demonstrates that they are experiencing a valid financial hardship and receives the Permanent HA Arrearages payment and/or EAPE Program payment to prevent the family's eviction. Also, a CalWORKs WtW family who is enrolled in Family Stabilization Program with GAIN may receive up to eight (8) consecutive months of rental subsidy payments. Please inquire with your District Homeless Case Manager and/or GAIN Services Worker for more information.

DPSS CalWORKs Housing Program benefits are available ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME.

Certain exceptions may apply for special circumstances.

Ask your Eligibility Worker for details.